

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC General Military Information

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] PREPARED 11 March 1953

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

SOURCE [REDACTED] 25X1X

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1. [REDACTED] from 3 to 10 January, from 22 to 27 January and from 10 to 21 February, exercises took place in the Rathenow-Barne-Muetzlitz-Barnewitz-Barzahne-Fritzerbe area, each of which involved about 500 soldiers and 20 tanks. The units left for Rathenow and Brandenburg. ¹ Another exercise, in which about 1,200 to 1,500 troops as well as tanks and artillery participated, took place in the Stechow-Landin-Nennhausen area. The units left on 21 February for Rathenow, presumably for entraining. [REDACTED] ² 25X1X

2. Source determined on 23 and 24 February that, since 21 February, no troops were in the Rathenow-Stechow-Ferchesar-Landin-Friesack-Nennhausen area. ²

3. The barrack installations in Rostock were not occupied to capacity from 17 to 19 February. Only little vehicular traffic was observed. Source estimated the occupation of the Putlitz Kaserne at not more than 400 to 500 soldiers and that of the barracks installation on Ulmenstrasse at about 1,500 soldiers. ³

4. At [REDACTED] ^{25X1A} on 25 February, a column of about 27 motor vehicles, most- [REDACTED] and 7 to 8 guns, presumably 122-mm field howitzers, was seen in Petznik, coming from Templin and proceeding toward Frenzlau. ⁴

25X4B

25X1A ¹. [REDACTED] Comment. Two other sources reported exercises, in which tanks allegedly participated, in this area between 28 January and 10 February and on 10 or 12 February. There were vague indications that these exercises involved units of the 10th Gds Tank Div.

25X1A ². [REDACTED] Comment. It is fairly definitely believed that, in the area mentioned, the exercises of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army took place, which probably began on 17 February and ended on 20 February. The participating units subsequently were entrained in the Rathenow area. [REDACTED]

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3. Comment. Same source, as late as 13 February, reported the two barracks installations occupied to capacity by units of the 3d Gds AT Art'y Brig. [redacted] This information tends to indicate that the previous assumption, that units of the brigade participated in the exercises of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army northeast of Rathenow, was correct. [redacted]

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285X10A 4. [] Comment. [] the column possibly belonged to the unidentified army AT artillery brigade of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army. [] the 25th Tank Div. As the brigade is not assigned 122-mm field howitzers, the guns mentioned probably were 160-mm mortars of the unidentified mortar regiment of the division stationed in Prenzlau, which, after the completion of advanced combat practice firing at the Templin troop training grounds, returned to their quarters. Since mid-January, the units of the division stationed in Prenzlau appear to participate continually in advanced combat practice firing at the Templin troop training grounds. []

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